

Dear House Judiciary Committee members;

I am unable to attend the hearing on HB 4003 and SB4 because of the late notice of this hearing. HOWEVER, I would like my comments to be included as part of the record. I urge you to adopt the amendments that are being offered that will include religious liberty protections within the Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act.

We can all agree that hate and discrimination of any kind is unacceptable. Therefore it is crucial to APPROVE the amendments being proposed ---otherwise these extremely vague and overbroad categories, will actually enable arbitrary discrimination to occur against citizens in a manner that policymakers may not have previously considered.

Without the amendments this statute WILL be used as a weapon against those who have sincerely held religious beliefs. If these bills are passed without amendments to protect our religious freedom of conscience, then churches, temples, mosques, businesses, or religious schools and agencies such as daycares or adoption agencies whose policies adhere to their faith would all be subject to expensive lawsuits, and more.

I urge you to include these amendments to ensure that you are accommodating the fundamental constitutional rights of all your citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Natalie Fielder
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